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# MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 17, 1863.

*To the House of Representatives:*

In partial response to your resolution of the 11th instant, I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War covering a list of exempts in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

Further information on this subject will be communicated when received.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

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# COMMUNICATION FROM SECRETARY OF WAR.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,
*War Department,*
Richmond, Va., Dec. 17, 1863.

*His Excellency* THE PRESIDENT:

SIR: In response to a resolution of the House of Representatives, adopted on the 11th instant, I have the honor to transmit a report from Colonel J. S. Preston, Chief of the Conscript Bureau, of "the number of exempts in the Confederate States, the States in which they reside, and the reasons for the exemption from military service."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
*Secretary of War.*

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C. S. A., War Department,
*Bureau of Conscription,*
Richmond, Va., Dec. 16, 1863.

Hon. James A. Seddon, *Secretary of War:*

Sir: The following resolution of the House of Representatives has been referred to this bureau:

"*Resolved*, That the President be respectfully requested to communicate to this House the number of exempts in the Confederate States, the States in which they reside, and the reason for exemption from military service."

In reply, I have the honor to submit that the number of exempts, by operation of law and other reasons, in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, the four States under charge of this bureau is sixty-four thousand eight hundred and thirty, viz.:

| | |
|---|---|
| Virginia, | 20,372 |
| North Carolina, | 22,807 |
| South Carolina, | 5,814 |
| Georgia, | 15,837 |
| Total, | 64,830 |

The specific causes are set forth in the paper herewith transmitted, marked "exemptions."

This statement will be found in the report I had the honor to submit to you on the 6th instant.

The number of substitutes is partly conjectural. The actual number may be furnished from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Department.

I may repeat my conviction that 20,000 or 25,000 substitutes have been put in the army, and that there are, perhaps, over ten thousand fraudulent substitute papers held by parties not in the service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. PRESTON,
*Colonel and Superintendent.*

## *NUMBER OF PERSONS EXEMPT in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.*

| [illegible] | Virginia. | North Carolina. | South Carolina. | Georgia. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 20 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 24 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | 11 | 11 | 34 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | 47 | [illegible] | 51 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 54 | 74 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 210 | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | 121 | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | ... | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | 145 | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 110 | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | 17 | [illegible] | ........ | 13 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | .. | 12 | |
| [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | |
| Orders of Secretary of War | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | ........ | ........ | ........ | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | ........ | ........ | ........ | [illegible] | |
| Asylums | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | |
| Hatters | 4 | ........ | ........ | 14 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | 17 | ........ | [illegible] | |
| Mail contractors and carriers | [illegible] | [illegible] | 11 | 4 | |
| [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| Executive clemency | [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| Magistrates | [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 1 | ........ | |
| [illegible] | 17 | 14 | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| State Ordnance Department | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | ........ | 1 | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] Gas Works | [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| Fire Department | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | |
| Government [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 8 | ........ | |
| Iron [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | [illegible] | ........ | |
| [illegible] | 2 | ........ | ........ | 107 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | 1 | ........ | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | ........ | |
| Miscellaneous | [illegible] | ........ | ........ | ........ | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 2 167 | [illegible] | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 770 | 7,000 | |
| Total | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 64,834 |

J. S. PRESTON.
*Col. Sup't Bureau of Conscription.*

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